IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Hiroshi Voshida et al

Serial No. : To be assigned

Filed : Herewith (October 13, 2006)

Entitled : FRACTURE PREDICTION DEVICE FOR SPOT WELDED

PORTION, METHOD OF THE SAME, COMPUTER

PROGRAM, AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING

MEDIUM

Group Art Unit : To be assigned

Examiner : To be assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A, and respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-captioned application. Copies of the references listed on the Form PTO/SB/08A are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under

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United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This submission is being filed before any action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the merits. Therefore, applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with the submission of this paper. However, if any fee is due, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 59-2054.

Respectfully submitted.

DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP

Date: October 13, 2006

Gary Abelev, Esq. USPTO Reg. No. 40,479 Attorney for Applicant (212) 415-9371

4852-7856-35850

To be assigned

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED

Application Number

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

^{**} English language translation of abstract enclosed.

^{***} References cited in International Search Report

Sent completed form to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Substitute for form 1449/PTO Application Number To be assigned Filing Date Herewith (October 13, 2006) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor Himshi Yoshida STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit To be assigned (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** To be assigned Sheet of 2 Attorney Docket Number 188482/US - 465122-00030 OTHER DOCUMENTS - NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue TRANSLATION nities No. number(s), publisher, city and/or country whom published NO YES Osamu Takatori et al., "Crash Simulation on Rail Car Body", JARI Research Journal Vol. 24, No. 7, Pages 265-268*** Eizaburo Nakanishi et al., "Possibilities of Prediction of Failure at Spot Welds in a Car Collision". Society of Automotive Engineering of Japan, No. 88-99, pages 1-4*** П Teruaki Inoue et al., "A Crash Simulation Analysis which Consider The Spot Weld Rupture", Society of Automotive Engineering of Japan, No. 88-00, pages 5-7*** Miyuki Yamamoto et al. "Characteristics comparison of some welding methods for sheet material and crashworthiness performance of model member", No. 9705 JSAE Symposium, March 25, 1997, Pages 39-44 ** "Specimen dimensions and procedure for shear testing resistance spot and embossed projected welded joints", Japanese Industrial Standard, March 20, 1999, pages 1-10** "Specimen dimensions and procedure for cross tension testing resistance spot and embossed projected welded joints", Japanese Industrial Standard, March 20,1999, pages 1-8** EXAMINER SIGNATURE DATE CONSIDERED *EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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